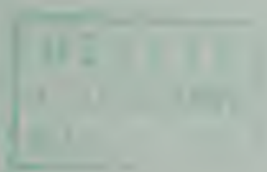


Narberth Rural District Council



WfC  
28/12/70

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DISTRICT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

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1969

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N A R B E R T H   R U R A L   D I S T R I C T .

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR

1969.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council

Madam Chairman, Lady Philipps and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report on the health of your district for the year 1969.

HOUSING.

Generally, the condition of the housing accommodation in the area is good and there is little or no overcrowding. A considerable number of private dwellings were completed during the year, but no council houses were built, so that the waiting list at the end of the year was a lengthy one. However, work has already begun on a substantial Council housing programme to cover the next three years.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

There were very few cases of infectious disease notified for your area during the year. One young woman returned from a holiday in the Lebanon suffering from paratyphoid fever; she was admitted to Glangwili Hospital, Carmarthen, seriously ill but fortunately made a complete recovery.

During the height of the season in July, an outbreak of gastro-enteritis occurred in the densely populated holiday area in the south east of the district. This outbreak was caused by a viral agent spread by close personal contact.

In December last, in common with the whole of the county, residents in the district were affected by the outbreak of influenza, (Hong Kong type). There were two female deaths from influenza during the year.



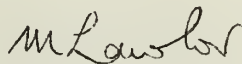
CARAVANNING AND CAMPING.

There are a considerable number of sites in the area, which are subject to regular inspection by officers of your Council. Efforts are being made to ensure that all sites comply with the licence conditions, to bring their facilities up to the high standard which is expected by the holiday-makers of to-day.

I should like to extend my sincere thanks to the Members of the Council and its Officers for their courtesy and kindness to me during my first year as Medical Officer of Health.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "M Lawlor".

MICHAEL LAWLOR, M.B.,  
D.C.H., D.P.H.,

The Clinic,  
Warren Street,  
TENBY.

Tel: Tenby 2991/2.

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# V I T A L       S T A T I S T I C S .

Resident Population (Registrar General's Estimate) 1969

9,990.

	<u>Narberth</u> <u>R.D.1969</u>	<u>Narberth</u> <u>R.D.1968</u>	<u>County of</u> <u>Pembroke</u>	<u>England &amp;</u> <u>Wales</u>
Live Births	128	147		
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 pop.)	12.8	14.8	16.6	16.3
Illegitimate Live Births	8	6		
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births	6	4		
Still Births	2	1		
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 Live & Still Births)	15	7	17.0	13.0
Total Live & Still Births	130	148		
Infant Deaths (Deaths under 1yr)	1	1		
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births)				
- total	8	7	15.0	18.0
- legitimate	8	7		
- illegitimate	Nil	Nil		
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 4wks)(per 1,00 Live Births)	8	7	11.0	12.0
Early neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1wk) (per 1,000 Live Births)	8	7	10.0	10.0





<u>Narberth</u>	<u>Narberth</u>	<u>County of</u>	<u>England</u>
<u>R.D.1969</u>	<u>R.D.1968</u>	<u>Pembroke</u>	<u>&amp; Wales</u>

Peri-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1wk and Still Births combined) (per 1,000 Live & Still Births)	23	14	26	23
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live & Still Births)	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.19
Deaths	139	126		
Death Rate (per 1,000 pop.)	13.9	12.7	12.4	11.9

### INFANT MORTALITY.

One male child died at a few hours from prematurity;  
his birth weight was 5lbs.

### DEATHS (General).

The death rate for the district remains slightly higher  
than both the county and national rates this year. 47 of the total  
139 deaths were due to heart disease and 22 were due to malignant  
disease - 5 due to cancer of the lung.

Approximately 36% of the deaths occurred in persons  
aged between 70 and 80 years and approximately 19% in persons over  
80 years of age.

<u>Causes of Death.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
TOTAL (All causes)	84	55
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	
Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	1	
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	3	-
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	5	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast		2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus		1
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	1	
Leukaemia	-	1
Other malignant neoplasms	3	3



<u>Causes of Death (cont.)</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Diabetes Mellitus	2	2
Other endocrine diseases	1	-
Other diseases of Nervous System	2	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	2	-
Hypertensive Disease	1	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	25	13
Other forms of Heart Disease	1	6
Cerebrovascular disease	11	13
Other diseases of Circulatory System	2	5
Influenza	-	2
Pneumonia	6	1
Bronchitis and emphysema	6	-
Asthma	1	-
Other diseases of Respiratory System	1	-
Appendicitis	1	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	1	-
Other diseases of Digestive System	2	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.,	1	-
All other accidents	1	1
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	1	-
All other external causes	-	1

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

One male patient in the 35 - 44 years age group, died from respiratory tuberculosis during the year and one new case of tuberculosis (other forms), a female patient in the 15 - 19 years age group, was notified to me from your district.

Prevention of Tuberculosis: B.C.G. vaccination of school-children (13 years and over) was carried out at school sessions during the autumn term and at Narberth County Secondary School, 37 pupils were skin tested, 29 of which required vaccination. Dr. D.Llewelyn Davies, the Chest Physician, continues to vaccinate contacts at the Chest Clinic.

During 1969, 791 school-children and 42 contacts in the county received B.C.G. vaccination.



## NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following cases of infectious disease were notified to me from your district during the year :-

- 1 Measles
- 1 Other forms Tuberculosis
- 1 Paratyphoid Fever.

## MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

It was not possible for the Mobile Unit of the Mass Radiography Service to make its annual visit to your district before the end of the year, but arrangements were made for a visit early in 1970.

## NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

Local Health Services: Vaccination against smallpox, poliomyelitis and measles and immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus continued during the year at the local infant welfare clinic and at school sessions. No separate district figures are available, but the following details relate to the children under 16 years of age in the whole county, who received immunisation and vaccination during the year :-

Primary Diphtheria immunisations:	1,226;	"Booster" doses:	2,026
Whooping cough immunisations:	1,202.		
Primary Tetanus immunisations:	1,505;	"Booster" doses:	2,154
Primary Polio. vaccinations:	1,306;	"Booster" doses:	2,037
Primary Smallpox vaccinations:	725;	"Re-vaccinations:	87
B.C.G. vaccinations:	791;	Contacts:	42
Measles vaccinations:	850.		

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47: Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

It was not necessary for any action to be taken under the above Section during the year.





JOINT REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND THE  
DEPUTY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1969.

1. FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

Inspections: One was made during the year.

<u>Premises.</u>	<u>No.on Register.</u>	<u>Inspect- ions.</u>	<u>Written Notices.</u>	<u>Prosec- utions.</u>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority.	Nil	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	35	1	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-workers' premises)	Nil	-	-	-
TOTALS:	35	1	-	-

2. OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1960.

33 visits and 19 re-visits were carried out during the year to premises covered by this Act. The number of premises registered is 69 an increase of 4 since last year. No formal action was taken against any occupier but many informal notices were sent.

3. ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

During the year, 152 visits were made to the air monitoring stations at Amroth, Llandissilio and Cresselly where semi-automatic equipment enables daily observations of smoke and sulphur dioxide to be taken.

Four inspections were necessary in connection with two complaints concerning nuisances from smoke arising from garden bonfires; this type of complaint is on the increase and a lack of consideration for neighbours is the reason.





#### 4. HOUSING.

<u>Inspection of Dwelling Houses.</u>	<u>Visits.</u>	<u>Re-visits.</u>
Total no. of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health & Housing Acts:	16	31
No. of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation:	6	-
No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied:	3	-
No. of visits in connection with filthy or verminous premises:	3	8
No. of visits in connection with defective drainage and/or sanitary fittings:	66	75
No. of visits/interviews with owners or contractors and inspection of work in progress:	21	21
No. of visits to tents, vans and sheds:	13	12
No visits were necessary in respect of overcrowding during the year.		

The task of allocation of Council Houses and garages again consumed a great deal of time and 42 visits and 121 re-visits were made in this connection.

#### 5. CARAVANNING AND CAMPING.

During 1969, there were 55 licensed sites operating within the area, with a total permitted number of caravans at 2,168. 15 more sites were licensed but are not yet in operation, such sites adding a total permitted number of 254 caravans.

A further 70 pitches were available on 14 sites for which the Caravan Club had granted exemption certificates.

In addition to the large number of caravans mentioned above, some others were sited on land for which there is no need for a site licence. Two instances are :-

- (i) if one caravan stops for one or two nights and the site is not so used for not more than 28 days in a year, and
- (ii) if the site forms part of a holding of five acres or more and there are not more than three caravans on the land at any one time and the land is not used as a caravan site for more than 28 days in any year.

Such exemptions entail a great deal of supervision, especially in such a large district as this; daily visits in some instances are essential. The Council could apply to the Minister for these exemptions to be withdrawn and the Council's solicitor has indeed suggested that this be done.



## CARAVANNING AND CAMPING (cont.)

Seven sites were licensed as tent sites under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 - the permitted number of tents being 390.

A survey of all the licensed sites was made in the middle of the holiday season and it was quite clear that numerous sites were not complying with their licences, especially in respect of fire fighting. The Council, therefore, reviewed this condition and a more realistic and yet higher standard was introduced.

A total of 96 visits and 42 re-visits were necessary in respect of caravan sites.

Legal proceedings were taken against various persons for siting caravans on Kingsmoor Common without authority.

### 6. INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

A total of 40 visits were necessary to the homes and workplaces of patients and contacts in order that enquiries could be made as to the cause and prevention of further cases of infectious disease.

### 7. INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES.

Routine inspections continued of all the various food premises to ensure compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Generally, the co-operation of the shop-keepers and the necessary compliance with the requirements of the regulations is obtained. The hygienic standard of the majority of the shops is quite commendable but with more and more foodstuffs now appearing pre-packed, there is an increasing danger of out-of-date foods being sold. Shop-keepers too often do not know the age of products they are selling; advice has to be constantly given on this subject.

An alarming defect in the legislation governing the distribution of foodstuffs was discovered in the height of the season, when a spot check was made of a delivery van which was carrying sausages, bacon, etc.,. These products when kept on shop premises are subject to strict temperature control, but there is no such control when they are in transit. The delivery van in question had taken a large stock of pies and pasties at the beginning of the week and still had many of them in stock at the end of the week. The van was not insulated or refrigerated and the temperature at night would probably drop to 55deg. F. and in the day could rise to 100 deg. F. These pies and pasties which normally have a 'shelf-life' of three days would then be sold to shop-keepers who would then expect them to keep for three days.



## INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES (cont.)

Visits were made as follows :-

	<u>No. of visits.</u>	<u>Re-visits.</u>
Bakehouses	5	-
Butchers and cooked meat shops	8	3
Factory and office canteens	1	2
School canteens	-	-
Fish, fruit and vegetable shops	2	2
Food inspection	19	1
Food - investigation of complaints	2	-
Food and drug sampling	-	-
Market stalls and delivery vehicles	11	5
Grocers and confectioners shops	20	3
Public houses and licensed clubs	16	9
Restaurants, cafes and snackbars	11	10

### 8. MILK SUPPLIES.

A total of 56 visits and 8 re-visits were made during the year. 138 samples were taken from 30 producer/retailers in the district; all samples were negative.

### 9. INSPECTION OF PREMISES REGISTERED FOR THE MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ICE-CREAM AND PRESERVED FOODS.

<u>Type of Premises.</u>	<u>Visits.</u>	<u>Re-visits.</u>
Manufacture, sale and storage of Ice-cream:	6	6
Manufacture of sausages and preserved meat and fish:	-	3

32 premises are registered for the manufacture and sale of ice-cream and 7 for the manufacture of sausages and preserved meat and preparation of preserved fish.

### 10. MEAT INSPECTION.

There are three licensed slaughterhouses in the district and the following meat was examined during the year:

<u>CATTLE.</u>	<u>CALVES.</u>	<u>PIGS.</u>	<u>SHEEP.</u>
1,202	199	267	1,703

570 visits were carried out.





## 11. WATER SAMPLING.

The mains water supply continues to be sampled regularly by the Pembrokeshire Water Board but, in addition, check samples are taken by the Public Health Inspectors, usually on receipt of complaints.

A total of 16 visits were made in connection with water sampling and it is hoped to increase this number in future years in order that a sampling of the numerous private supplies can be done.

Samples were taken for chemical and bacteriological examination and the following results were obtained:-

Private supplies: 7 satisfactory; 1 unsatisfactory.

Public supplies: 2 satisfactory; 1 unsatisfactory.

## 12. KEEPING OF ANIMALS.

Complaints concerning the nuisances arising from the intensive keeping of animals, particularly poultry, are on the increase. Smell arising from the spreading of manure on farm land is the cause of most complaints but so long as this practice is not done too frequently, say weekly, very little action can be taken; people living in a rural area must, and do, submit to such smells.

The control of animal boarding establishments is carried out by the department. The following visits were made during the year :-

No. of visits.

19

No. of re-visits.

4

## 13. REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The refuse collection service has maintained its high standard of efficiency. Few complaints are received, although slight delays do occur from time to time due to bank holidays and breakdowns.

The amount of refuse collected has continued to increase, mainly due to an increase in the number of houses served together with the increase of bulk which is happening nationally. Bulky household goods continue to be collected at source upon request. This service has been much appreciated and has contributed a great deal to the efforts being made to keep the rural district tidy.

The controlled tip at Kingsmoor Common continues to be a successful venture although much trouble and inconvenience is caused by persons going on to the tip after hours.





#### Abandoned Vehicles.

The administration work involved in this connection is fairly complicated and is time consuming. 17 abandoned vehicles were dealt with during the year; 11 of these were removed by the Council and 6 by the respective owner. 27 visits and 45 re-visits were occasioned in this respect.

	<u>No. of visits.</u>	<u>No. of re-visits.</u>
Ashbins	20	7
Accumulations of refuse	26	12
Controlled Tip and Car Pound	101	3
Litter	29	-

#### 14. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

During the year 198 visits were made to sewage disposal works and pumping stations, but the appointment of an Engineer (sewage disposal) in the year transfers these functions to him.

#### 15. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The cleansing and maintenance of the Public Conveniences listed below is vested in the Public Health Department :-

- Regency Car Park, Saundersfoot.
- Harbour Car Park, Saundersfoot.
- Coppet Hall.
- Wiseman's Bridge.
- Amroth Village.
- Amroth Castle.
- Kilgetty.

The attendants have an unpleasant job in ensuring cleanliness at all times, as much mis-use takes place in the holiday season, but no complaints were received during the year. 70 inspections were carried out during 1969.



# 16. RODENT AND PEST CONTROL.

	<u>Non-Agricultural.</u>	<u>Agricultural.</u>
No. of properties in district	3,429	949
No. infested by (i) rats	213	-
(ii) mice	6	-
Total no. of properties inspected for rats and /or mice for reasons other than notification -		
no. infested by (i) rats	142	-
(ii) mice	-	-

56 inspections of property were carried out during the year and the above infestations were dealt with by the rodent operator.

# 17. MISCELLANEOUS.

Other visits made during the year were as follows :-

	<u>Visits.</u>	<u>Re-visits.</u>
Rag, flock, etc., Act.,	1	-
Offensive trades	37	-
Miscellaneous	426	35
Agriculture (SH. & W) Act.,	-	-
Noise Nuisances	2	2
Oil pollution investigation	19	14
Court	9	-
Scrap metal Dealers Act.	-	-

W.E.DAVIES,  
Chief Public Health Inspector.

R.D.JOHNSON,  
Deputy Public Health Inspector.





